

Flexible Spending Account

Eligible and ineligible expenses

In order to use your health care flexible spending account (FSA), the health care item or service needs to be considered “eligible.” The Internal Revenue Service – better known as the IRS – has guidelines to determine which expenses are eligible and qualify for reimbursement from your FSA. Typically, an eligible expense must be a service or product that is purchased for medical care to help treat a medical condition or prevent a disease, among other things.

As you shop for care and for health care items, use this as a helpful guide. This list does not include everything. In fact, the IRS may modify the guidelines from time to time, which may cause the list to change. Your employer may also limit coverage on certain eligible expenses, so it is important that you review your FSA benefit information.

Eligible medical expenses examples:

- Acupuncture
- Alcoholism treatment
- Ambulance
- Artificial limbs
- Artificial teeth
- Breast reconstruction surgery (mastectomy-related)
- Chiropractor
- Contact lenses and solutions
- Cosmetic surgery, but only if necessary due to disfiguring trauma or disease
- Dental treatment (X-rays, cleanings, fillings, braces, extractions, etc.)
- Diagnostic devices (blood sugar test kits for diabetics)
- Doctor's office visits and procedures
- Drug addiction treatment
- Drug prescriptions
- Eyeglasses and vision exams
- Eye surgery (laser eye surgery)
- Fertility treatment
- Hearing aids and batteries
- Hospital services
- Laboratory fees
- Operations/surgery (excluding unnecessary cosmetic surgery)
- Over-the-counter drugs and items used solely to treat a medical condition (aspirin, pain relievers, cough suppressants, etc.)
- Physical therapy
- Psychiatric care (if the expense is for mental health care provided by a psychiatrist, psychologist or other licensed professional)
- Special education for learning disabilities
- Speech therapy
- Stop-smoking programs including nicotine gum or patches
- Vasectomy
- Weight-loss program to treat a specific disease diagnosed by a physician
- Wheelchair

**Remember, these lists
are examples and are
not all-inclusive.**

Ineligible medical expenses examples:

- Advance payment for future medical care
- Amounts reimbursed from any other source (health coverage or another FSA)
- Cosmetic surgery (unless necessary due to disfiguring trauma or disease)
- Diaper service
- Electrolysis or hair removal
- Health insurance premiums (e.g., COBRA, AD&D, LTD, STD, long-term care, group and individual health insurance and Medicare premiums)
- Health club dues
- Household help
- Illegal operations and treatments
- Long-term care for medical expenses
- Maternity clothes
- Nutritional supplements, such as multi-vitamins, for general good health
- Personal use items, such as toothbrush, toothpaste, etc.
- Swimming lessons
- Teeth whitening

You can find a more detailed list of eligible and ineligible expenses on myuhc.com®.

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